

(b) The recipient may not discriminate on the basis of religion in the admission of individuals to its training programs.

[44 FR 29055, May 18, 1979, as amended at 56 FR 19294, Apr. 26, 1991; 57 FR 45734, Oct. 5, 1992; 61 FR 6123, Feb. 16, 1996]

§ 57.216a Performance standard.

On June 30, 1984, and on each June 30 thereafter, except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, each school must have a default rate (as calculated under paragraph (a) of this section) of not more than 5 percent.

(a) The default rate for each school shall be the ratio (stated as a percentage) that the defaulted principal amount outstanding of the school bears to the matured loans of the school. For this purpose:

(1) The term *defaulted principal amount outstanding* means the total amount borrowed from the loan fund of a school that has reached the repayment stage (minus any principal amount repaid or canceled) on loans in default for more than 120 days; and

(2) The term *matured loans* means the total principal amount of all loans made by a school under this subpart minus the total principal amount of loans made by the school to students who are:

(i) Enrolled in a full-time course of study at the school; or

(ii) In their grace period.

(b) Any school that has a default rate greater than 5 percent on June 30 of any year will be required to:

(1) Reduce its default rate by 50 percent (or a school with a default rate below 10 percent must reduce its rate to 5 percent) by the close of the following 6-month period; and

(2) By the end of each succeeding 6-month period, reduce its default rate to 50 percent of the required rate for the previous 6-month period, until it reaches 5 percent.

(c) Any school subject to the provisions of paragraph (b) of this section which fails to comply with those requirements will receive no new HPSSL funds and will be required to:

(1) Place the revolving fund monies and all subsequent collections into an insured interest-bearing account;

(2) Make no loan disbursements; and

(3) By the end of the succeeding 6-month period, reduce its default rate to 50 percent of the rate it failed to achieve under paragraph (b) of this section, or 5 percent. A school that meets this requirement will be permitted to resume the use of its health professions student loan funds, but must continue to comply with the requirements of paragraph (b)(2) of this section if its default rate is still greater than 5 percent.

(d) Any school subject to the provisions of paragraph (c)(3) of this section which fails to comply with those requirements will be subject to termination. The Secretary will provide the school with a written notice specifying his or her intention to terminate the school's participation in the program and stating that the school may request, within 30 days of the receipt of this notice, a formal hearing. If the school requests a hearing, it must within 90 days of the receipt of the notice, submit material, factual issues in dispute to demonstrate that there is cause for a hearing. These issues must be both substantive and relevant. The hearing will be held in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. The Secretary will deny a hearing if:

(1) The request for a hearing is untimely (i.e., fails to meet the 30-day requirement);

(2) The school does not provide a statement of material, factual issues in dispute within the 90-day required period; or

(3) The statement of factual issues in dispute is frivolous or inconsequential.

In the event that the Secretary denies a hearing, the Secretary will send a written denial to the school setting forth the reasons for denial. If a hearing is denied, or if as a result of the hearing, termination is still determined to be necessary, the school will be terminated from participation in the program and will be required to return the Federal share of the revolving fund to the Department. A school terminated for failure to comply with the provisions of paragraph (c)(3) of this section must continue to pursue collections and may reapply for participation

in the program only when it has attained a default rate of 5 percent or less.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 0915-0047)

[50 FR 34423, Aug. 23, 1985, as amended at 52 FR 20988, June 3, 1987; 53 FR 46550, Nov. 17, 1988; 56 FR 19294, Apr. 26, 1991]

§ 57.217 Additional conditions.

The Secretary may with respect to any agreement entered into with any school under § 57.205, impose additional conditions prior to or at the time of any award when in his or her judgment these conditions are necessary to assure or protect the advancement of the purposes of the agreement, the interest of the public health, or the conservation of funds awarded.

§ 57.218 Noncompliance.

Wherever the Secretary finds that a participating school has failed to comply with the applicable provisions of the Act or the regulations of this subpart, he or she may, on reasonable notice to the school, withhold further payment of Federal capital contributions, and take such other action, including the termination of any agreement, as he or she finds necessary to enforce the Act and regulations. In this case no further expenditures shall be made from the health professions student loan fund or funds involved until the Secretary determines that there is no longer any failure of compliance.

Subpart D—Nursing Student Loans

AUTHORITY: Sec. 215 of the Public Health Service Act, 58 Stat. 690, 67 Stat. 631 (42 U.S.C. 216); secs. 835-842 of the Public Health Service Act, 77 Stat. 913-916, as amended by 99 Stat. 397-400, 536-537, and 102 Stat. 3160-3161 (42 U.S.C. 297 a-i).

SOURCE: 50 FR 34434, Aug. 23, 1985, unless otherwise noted.

§ 57.301 Applicability.

The regulations in this subpart apply to the Federal capital contributions made by the Secretary to public or other nonprofit schools of nursing for the establishment of nursing student loan funds and to loans made to students from these funds.

§ 57.302 Definitions.

As used in this subpart:

Academic year means the traditional, approximately 9-month September to June annual session. For the purpose of computing academic year equivalents for students who, during a 12-month period, attend for a longer period than the traditional academic year, the academic year will be considered to be of 9 months' duration.

Act means the Public Health Service Act, as amended.

Community health center means an entity as defined under section 330(a) of the Public Health Service Act, and in regulations at 42 CFR 51c.102(c).

Date upon which a student ceases to be a full-time or half-time student means the first day of the month which is nearest to the date upon which an individual ceases to be a full-time or half-time student, as defined in this section.

Default means the failure of a borrower of a loan made under this subpart to make an installment payment when due, or comply with any other term of the promissory note for such loan, except that a loan made under this subpart shall not be considered to be in default if the loan is discharged in bankruptcy, the borrower's repayment schedule has been renegotiated and the borrower is complying with the renegotiated schedule, or the loan is in forbearance.

Federal capital loan means a loan made by the Secretary to a school under section 827(a) of the Act, as in effect prior to July 29, 1975, the proceeds of which are to be returned to the Secretary.

Full-time student means a student who is enrolled in a school and pursuing a course of study which constitutes a full-time academic workload, as determined by the school, leading to a diploma in nursing, an associate degree in nursing or an equivalent degree, a baccalaureate degree in nursing or an equivalent degree, or a graduate degree in nursing.

Good standing means the eligibility of a student to continue in attendance at the school where he or she is enrolled as a student in accordance with the school's standards and practices.

Grace period means the period of 9 months beginning on the date upon